

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 11, 12 and 24-46 were pending and under consideration in the above-identified application, Claims 1-5, 10, and 13-23 were previously cancelled, and Claims 6-9, 11, 12, 24-26, 33-37, 44, and 45 were previously withdrawn.

In the Office Action, Claims 27, 29- 32, 38 - 41 and 46 were rejected.

In this Amendment, Claims 27 and 41 are amended, and Claims 6 – 9, 11, 12, 24-26, 33-37, 44, and 45 are cancelled. No new matter has been introduced as a result of this Amendment.

Accordingly, Claims 27, 29- 32, 38 – 41 and 46 remain at issue.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 27, 40 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Takaaki* (JP Patent Publ. No. 2002-131750) in view of *Kikkawa* (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,032).

Claims 38, 39, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Takaaki* and *Kikkawa* in view of *Hanrahan et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,262,788).

Claims 29 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Takaaki* and *Kikkawa* in view of *Suzuki et al.* (U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2002/0018162).

Claims 30, 32, and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Takaaki* and *Kikkawa* in view of *Suzuki et al.* and in view of *Nishida et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,168).

Although Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, Claims 27 and 41 have been amended to clarify the invention and remove any ambiguities that may have been at the basis of these claim rejections

Independent Claim 27 is directed to a liquid crystal display device. The liquid crystal display device includes a microlens, a liquid crystal panel, a first optical compensation layer, and a second optical compensation layer.

Amended Claim 27 recites that “the first optical compensation layer being positioned on a luminous flux emission side of the liquid crystal panel, and the second optical compensation layer being positioned on the luminous flux incidence side of the liquid crystal panel, the liquid crystal panel being positioned between the first optical compensation layer and the second optical compensation layer.” Independent Claim 41 has also been amended to recite this above

quoted limitation. This limitation is supported in paragraph [0053] of the US Published the disclosure and by FIG. 5.

All of the rejections principally rely on the *Takaaki* reference. *Takaaki* is directed to a projection display. *Takaaki* discloses the use of an optical phase compensation board to compensate for the optical phase difference. Unlike the claimed invention, *Takaaki* clearly does not disclose the distinguishable limitation of Claims 27 and 41 and neither do the other references cited by the Examiner for a specific purpose. In fact, as illustrated in at least Drawing 2 the optical phase compensation films 85 and 86 are positioned on the same side of the liquid crystal panel 87. That is, *Takaaki* fails to teach or suggest that the first optical compensation layer is positioned on a luminous flux emission side of the liquid crystal panel, the second optical compensation layer is positioned on the luminous flux incidence side of the liquid crystal panel, and that the liquid crystal panel is positioned between the first optical compensation layer and the second optical compensation layer, as required by Claim 27.

For at least the above reason, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 27 and 41, and their respective dependent claims, are not rendered obvious by *Takaaki* in view of *Kikkawa* or any other cited art.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 27, 29- 32, 38 – 41 and 46 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

If the Examiner finds that there are any outstanding issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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